Response to Office Action of October 20, 2008 Amendment for RCE of January 21, 2009

Appl. No.: 10/725,735

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

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Listing of Claims:

- 1. (Cancelled)
- 2-30. (previously cancelled)
- 31. (New) A method for selecting a logical branch in a storyline among a plurality of available storyline branches, based on voters' votes, comprising: accumulating the votes from the voters; calculating a total for the accumulated votes; and selecting a winning tally that corresponds to a storyline branch, based on the total of the accumulated votes.
- 32. (New) The method of claim 31, further comprising transferring the storyline branch to a content branching system.
- 33. (New) The method of claim 32, further comprising displaying the transferred storyline branch.
- 34. (New) The method of claim 31, further comprising selectively excluding votes for a specific storyline branch.
- 35. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein selectively excluding votes for a specific storyline branch comprises excluding the votes within a predetermined period of time before the specific storyline branch occurs.

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36. (New) The method of claim 31, further comprising determining if the votes are weighted.

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37. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein if the votes are weighted, selectively

multiplying the votes by respective weight factors.

38. (New) The method of claim 31, further comprising determining if additional votes

remain to be accumulated; and wherein if additional votes remain to be accumulated,

repeating an accumulation of the votes until all the votes have been incremented.

39. (New) The method of claim 31, further comprising saving a record of the

storyline branch for later replay.

40. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the votes are weighted based on a

graduated ticket pricing.

41. (New) A computer program product having instruction codes for selecting a

logical branch in a storyline among a plurality of available storyline branches, based on

voters' votes, the computer program product comprising: a first set of instruction codes

for accumulating the votes from the voters; a second set of instruction codes for

calculating a total for the accumulated votes; and a third set of instruction codes for

selecting a winning tally that corresponds to a storyline branch, based on the total of the

accumulated votes.

42. (New) The computer program product of claim 41, wherein the first set of

instruction codes transferring the storyline branch to a content branching system.

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43. (New) The computer program product of claim 42, further comprising a fourth set of instruction codes for displaying the transferred storyline branch.

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- 44. (New) The computer program product of claim 41, further comprising a fifth set of instruction codes for selectively excluding votes for a specific storyline branch.
- 45. (New) The computer program product of claim 44, wherein the fifth set of instruction codes excludes the votes within a predetermined period of time before the specific storyline branch occurs.
- 46. (New) The computer program product of claim 41, further comprising a sixth set of instruction codes for determining if the votes are weighted.
- 47. (New) The computer program product of claim 46, wherein if the votes are weighted, the first set of instruction codes selectively multiplies the votes by respective weight factors.
- 48. (New) The computer program product of claim 41, further comprising a seventh set of instruction codes for determining if additional votes remain to be accumulated; and wherein if additional votes remain to be accumulated, the seventh set of instruction codes repeats an accumulation of the votes until all the votes have been incremented.
- 49. (New) The computer program product of claim 41, further comprising an eight set of instruction codes for saving a record of the storyline branch for later replay.
- 50. (New) The computer program product of claim 46, wherein the eight set of instruction codes weighs the votes based on a graduated ticket pricing.

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51. (New) A service for selecting a logical branch in a storyline among a plurality of available storyline branches, based on voters' votes, the service comprising: an automatic accumulation of the votes from the voters; an automatic calculation of a total for the accumulated votes; and an automatic selection of a winning tally that corresponds to a storyline branch, based on the total of the accumulated votes.

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- 52. (New) The service of claim 51, further comprising a transfer of the storyline branch to a content branching service.
- 25. (New) The service of claim 52, further comprising a display of the transferred storyline branch.
- 54. (New) The service of claim 51, further a selective exclusion of votes for a specific storyline branch.
- 55. (New) The service of claim 54, wherein the selective exclusion of the votes comprises an exclusion of the votes within a predetermined period of time before the specific storyline branch occurs.
- 56. (New) The service of claim 51, further comprising a determination of whether the votes are weighted.
- 57. (New) The service of claim 56, wherein if the votes are weighted, the automatic accumulation selectively multiplies the votes by respective weight factors.
- 58. (New) The service of claim 51, further comprising a determination of whether additional votes remain to be accumulated; and wherein if additional votes remain to be accumulated, repeating an accumulation of the votes until all the votes have been

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incremented.

59. (New) The service of claim 51, further comprising a record of the storyline branch for later replay.

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60. (New) The service of claim 56, further comprising a weighting of the votes based on a graduated ticket pricing.